



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FORMER SUMMER CAMP DIRECTOR SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR
POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that Paul Edward Cope, the former Executive Director for Camp Champions Youth Camp in Marble Falls, Texas, was sentenced to 46 months in federal prison for possessing child pornography.

On November 10, 2005, Cope pled guilty to the charge. In his plea, the defendant admitted that between September 2002 and April 2003, he knowingly purchased subscriptions to view, purchase and download images of minors under the age of 18 engaging in explicit sexual conduct.

On July 2, 2004, agents with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement executed a search warrant at Camp Champions where they seized the defendant's laptop computer as well as an image from the defendant's file on the camp's computer server. According to court records, an analysis of the defendant's server files revealed that Cope knowingly possessed approximately 50 images of child pornography. On the laptop computer, agents discovered thousands of images of child pornography. Over 400 of those found on the laptop were determined to depict actual children identified by a database of known victims maintained by ICE.

During yesterday's court hearing, United States District Judge Lee Yeakel also ordered that Cope be placed under supervised release for a period of four years after completing his prison term. Following the hearing, Cope was remanded to the custody of the United States Marshals Service to begin serving his prison term.

This case was prosecuted for the government by Assistant United States Attorney Doug Gardner.

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